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Brian P. Kemp *Governor*

Amy M. Jacobs
Commissioner

August 16, 2019

Re: Increased Pre-school and School Aged Children Rates

Dear CAPS Family Member,

I am writing to inform you about an upcoming change to the CAPS program that MIGHT positively affect your family. On September 2, 2019, the CAPS Maximum Reimbursement Rate paid to providers who care for *pre-school and school aged children* will increase.

The CAPS Maximum Reimbursement Rate is based on where in Georgia the care is provided, the type of child care provider you use, the type of care provided, and *the age of your child*. (For more details, visit the <u>CAPS Funding Model</u> webpage or the <u>CAPS Reimbursement Rates</u> chart.)

What does this mean for you and your family? If your child is three to five years old or school aged, the amount CAPS pays toward your child care expenses may increase in September. Your CAPS assessed family fee will **not** be impacted by this change, and the increased rate **may** lower your out of pocket expenses if your provider's rate is higher than the current CAPS maximum rate.

• For example, the current CAPS maximum rate in Atlanta (Zone 1) at a child care learning center for a four year old who receives full-time care is \$114. In September this rate will increase to \$124. Depending on provider rates and family fee amounts, this could reduce a family's out of pocket expenses by up to \$10 per week.

If your child is under age three, this rate increase will not affect you.

If your child is over age three, you will receive an updated scholarship certificate in late August.

We hope this change is good news for you and your family, and we look forward to our continued partnership with you to support your child's early education needs. For more information on CAPS, visit www.CAPS.decal.ga.gov.

Sincerely,

Elisabetta Kasfir

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Deputy Commissioner for Federal Programs